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URBAN DESIGN AS A SUBJECT OF THE POLICE POWER:
A Bibliography of Selected References

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Within the limitations imposed by natural or man-made barriers, the city is primarily a dynamic set of spaces shaped by the configuration of surface and subsurface structures. By definition, the urban settlement contains three types of spaces at the macro level: (1) dwellings which constitute the dominant texture; (2) paths or linkages which provide the operational structure for activity patterns; and (3) points of assembly or focus, serving as both directional guides and highly-socialized gathering places.

The organization of urban settlements and subsequent specialization of urban space and structure developed in a decidedly social context; structural differentiation on the basis of use (residential, commercial, industrial, etc.), resulted in the early application of formal and informal controls on structural design -- which transcended, but remained integrally related to -- topographical and technological factors. Thus, the social context of urban design has been clearly demonstrated by the social controls designed to shape the development and use of urban spaces.

In America, it was not until the advent of the Standard City Zoning Enabling Act in 1926 and the Standard City Planning Enabling Act in 1928 - promulgated as model legislation by the United States Department of Commerce - that effective regulation of land use and associated amenities in cities became a fact. Although a number of larger cities had well-developed regulation schemes prior to these model proposals, legislation controlling or

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directing urban design considerations was limited to certain types of zoning ordinances or private agreements.

As has been suggested, urban design in the United States has been, until recent decades, almost exclusively the domain of the private architect, landscape architect and general exterior designer. Legal control of the subject matter of urban design has been largely the function of restrictive covenants on private property, donation or dedication of private land and historical sites to the public and group agreements arising out of landowner associations. To the extent that present-day urban design operates in a privately-controlled framework, this bibliography will defer citation to the substantial number of investigations which have been made of private controls.

The following bibliography was prepared to provide selected reference sources which examine the general relationship between zoning and urban design; in particular, this document identifies both law review articles and court cases which trace the major regulatory mechanisms which assert public control of urban design in the United States. In addition, materials covering the general area of urban design (with emphasis on control) and design restrictions in urban renewal projects have been included to complete the bibliography.

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